The Progressive Farmer.

D. H. BROWDER, BUSINESS MANAGER. Raleigh, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C., JAN. 8, 1889

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and the Virginia State Farm-

PLEASE NOTICE.

ers' Alliance.

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

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We are compelled to ask our friends to make their obituary notices not more than twenty lines.

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Look at the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. Send us a dollar and let the paper continue to go to your address. Look after this important matter.

The indications are that the next General Assembly of our State will be composed largely of farmers. The Pro-GRESSIVE FARMER proposes to discuss freely such issues and questions as will most likely be brought before that body and in which every farmer in the State is directly interested. It will keep its readers thoroughly informed on all matters of legislation affecting their interests and will give the ayes and noes whenever necessary. The people shall know who are their friends and who their enemies. If you want to keep up, subscribe now for The PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

SALARIES OF JUDGES.

A correspondent of the News and Observer urges an increase of the salaries of our Superior and Supreme Court Judges. He claims that the Supreme Court Judges should have not less than \$4,000 per year, "and the Superior Court Judges not less than \$3,500 per year." He says: "Our State is every day improving, and let it not be said by people outside of our State that our people are so stingy that they will not pay our Judges a sufficient salary for their valuable services." As an argument, he says that a prominent lawyer of this city receives for his legal services every year more than our three Supreme Court Justices combined, and he might have truthfully added (tho' he did not) that he received more than a hundred economical, industrious, hard-working farmers.

"Our State every day improving!" first of May of last year. It may be these prices. termed "stingy" for a people in this deplorable condition not to pay the Judges of our State \$62,000 per annum for their services, but they are not going to do it.

trates the fact that the political penwill swing to the other.

much better condition than now, we

well remember that the number of our Supreme Court Judges were reduced from five to three, and their salaries fixed, and this too in compliance, as was claimed, with the popular demand of the people. Then the people thought \$30,000 sufficient for our Judges, and in this year of grace, 1889, they will not agree to increase the amount to \$62,000, even though they may be called "stingy." THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER wants our public officers paid and paid well if we can afford it, but the condition of the people who foot the bills should be considered. We must remember that our old veterans and orphans must be cared for, and that there is an army of children in the State who are growing up in gnorance.

THINK ABOUT IT.

The cotton crop of the South for the years 1870-71-72 aggregated 18,732,859 bales.

The excess of the crop for the last three years over the first three years named was 8,251,245 bales, but the value of the first over the last three years named was \$10,000,000. That is to say the 10,481,614 bales raised in the years 1870-71-72 brought \$10,000,000 more than the 18,732,859 bales raised in the years 1885-86-87.

The capital employed in this country in 1870 in manufacturing cotton was \$140,000,000, and the amount in 1880 was \$219,000,000, and if the ratio of increase has been maintained, the amount employed in 1888 is \$300,000,000.

Within the past 18 years our increase in population has been about 60 per cent.; our increased capital employed in the manufacture of cotton has been 100 per cent., and the increase in our crop about 100 per cent.

Recently the trade in cotton and cotton fabrics has greatly increased in China, Japan, South America and other countries, and the demand is constantly augmenting throughout the civilized world.

Do the above facts prove what should be the true policy of the American cotton farmers? Do they not prove that by co-operation on the part of the planters in reducing the acreage devoted to this crop and in raising their own supplies, that they will surely become masters of the gamblers for controlling the policy of genial Governor. "Yes, sir," said the commercial world should be con- he, "it was." I am emphatically in South. They have only to organize shall so declare to the Legislature." -come into the Alliance and join hands with us on the plan laid down by the National Alliance, and we shall surely see a revolution in the commercial world, which will bring to us of the South agricultural prosperity and industrial independence

IS THIS ANOTHER TRUST?

It is now generally understood that all manipulated fertilizers will be advanced in price, for the season, from two to four dollars per ton. Can our farmers afford to pay these prices? Is not this advance the result of a combine or trust? We have several establishments, in our State whom we learn are ready and willing to meet our farmers in a proper spirit and We assert that in our honest judg- with fair prices. Let the Alliances ment the farmers are in worse con- and farmers combine their purchases dition, financially, than they were in and we have no doubt they will be the dark days of 1866. Thousands met by satisfactory prices and terms. and thousands of them have not as At all events, let them study well the much corn to day as they had on the situation before they agree to pay

kindly admonish dealers in fertilizers to be very careful how they buy them. The farmers of North Carolina can do out that the committee cannot agree thou bearest in thy fair hand to the without them and they will do it, if The views of this writer but illus- they have just cause to suspect that it is another game of a trust. Meandulum when drawn to one extreme time our farmers yet have time to make large quantities of good manure In 1875, when our people were in at home. Let them use that time diligently.

THE GOVERNOR'S PALACE.

What will we do with It?

Again this "big elephant" is brought forward to be discussed and considered, and again THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER announces its decided conviction that it was a huge mistake to have undertaken a building on such a grand scale for the residence of our Governors. We don't want a palace for the Governor. A neat, comfortable residence in some quiet portion of our beautiful city, costing onefourth the money that this colossal affair will, is plenty good for any man who is good enough to be the Governor of the unpretending people of North Carolina.

We are not unmindful of the fact that criticisms prompted by pure and patriotic motives, on this enterprise, have been answered by the charge of "demagogery," but THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will not be intimidated nor deterred from an honest expression of its views on this or any other question affecting the interests of the tax-payers of the State.

In the completion and occupancy o this costly building by our Governors, a great principle is involved, in the judgment of The Progressive Farmer. It will discuss the matter in due time. It is unalterably opposed to seeing this glorious old State paraded in the ridiculous garb of a man clad in a broad-cloth coat, plug hat and copperas trousers and brogan shoes. A palace costing one hundred thousand dollars would doubtless suit a very wealthy man, or it would be equally comfortable to some impoverished political dead-beat, to whom anything would be a God-send, but there are other people than these in this State from among whom, it may be, the peoraffled for the elephant and got him' and the question is what will we do with him?

GOVERNOR FOWLE FOR A COM MISSION.

"Governor Fowle, it is stated in the papers that you will favor a rail road commission in your message to the Legislature. The Progressive FARMER would ask if such statement was made authoritatively and with situation? This great staple, which your consent," said a representative of is the chief card in the hands of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER to our trolled by the cotton farmers of the favor of a railroad commission and

THE LEGISLATURE.

This body will convene to-morrow The Progressive Farmer welcomes the gentlemen who compose it and trusts they will each and all enjoy that pleasure which always comes of a consciousness of duty faithfully performed. It is made up largely of farmers and much important legislation will come before it affecting this, our first and chief interest, and we hope these measures will receive such consideration as shall meet the approval of the great body of farmers of the State and as shall best promote the interests of the whole people.

MONKEYING WITH FARMERS.

ers' National Congress and other agricultural organizations have memorialized Congress for years, to make the new year bursts upon us in all the ex-Commissioner of Agriculture a Cabinet | hilerating freshness of beauteous officer. At the last session the bill THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER Would passed the Lower House, but when it | what shall thy record be? reached the Senate, that body made an amendment to it. Now it is given in the Elysian fields-opportunityand the bill will have to go over to the next session. The House, in the | bless thy name, or will they reject it bill, provided for the transfer of the Weather Bureau from the War De- of men and in the life of the world, partment to the Agricultural Department. To this the Senate objects. Why could not the bill be passed and make it.

give the farmers of the country a voice in the Cabinet and arrange this question as to the Weather Bureau afterward?

It could be done, and it would be done if the farmers of the country had been true to themselves and to their interests in selecting the men who compose our Congress. There are nearly eight millions of farmers in this country, and we believe they have only fifteen members in the American Congress. Insignificant in numbers and utterly helpless and powerless. It is a stigma on their manhood. Will they ever see the importance of having true representatives of their interests, elected?

MAIMED VETERANS' MEETING.

The meeting of the old veterans on the 22d inst. promises to be a most interesting occasion. Col. T. C Fuller has agreed to deliver the address of welcome and quite a nice programme is arranged for their reception. The maimed delegates, we learn, will be entertained by the citizens of Raleigh during their meeting, and every courtesy shown them to manifest the warm esteem in which they are held by our people. See the programme elsewhere published. We are requested by Mr. E. F. Fenton, Chairman of Committee of Arrangements, to announce that transportation tickets will be mailed direct to each delegate on the 8th inst. for all the roads in the State.

PROFOUNDLY AGITATED.

The Atlanta Constitution has been on an exciting search among the farm ers of Georgia, to ascertain their true condition, and has made the wonderful discovery that notwithstanding they have "made nearly one thousand ple might conclude they would like to | million dollars' worth of cotton since select a Governor. But "we have 1865," they are daily growing poorer! It is astounded and makes the startling announcement that "there is something wrong!" The Constitution is profoundly concerned and says there is a cause for this alarming state of things, and that it intends to find that

This new-born interest of the Constitution and the great hub-bub it is making over its remarkable discovery, can but excite a smile among intelligent farmers.

No paper in the South, perhaps, has more persistently claimed that as a people, we were riding on the hightide of prosperity and were going on to financial glory. No paper in the South has done more to encourage a system of financial piracy on the earnings of Southern farmers and to bring about that very condition over which it is now shedding crocadile tears. But it is gratifying to see that even the Constitution is waking up to a sense of the situation. It would be instructive to them and profitable to the country, if a few thousands of the would-be leaders in the South would get down around this subject and study it. Perhaps they might learn something.

1888 AND 1889.

Laden with its treasure of joys and sorrows, its successes and failures, its smiles and tears, its hopes and fears, its blessings and curses, the old year passed gently through the misty gate The Grange, the Alliance, the Farm- into the great and irrevocable Past. Flushed with the brilliant glow of amber flame, the roseate morn of the youth. In the mighty cycle of time,

The most precious flower that blooms world! Will men receive it and and curse thy memory? In the lives what shall the record of 1889 be? Just what men and the world will

THE SPEAKERSHIP TO BE MADE THE TEST ON AN IMPOR-TANT QUESTION.

This is what is said in political circles. It is well known that Mr. Leazer, of Iredell, who is a prominent candidate for the Speakership of the the House, is a pronounced advocate of a railroad commission, and for this he will have to meet the combined forces of the railroads. The people will watch for the result of the contest with much interest. The Progressive FARMER will endeavor to keep them informed as to the course of their servants on all questions of immediate concern to them. It will be a faithful chronicler of legislative events for the next sixty days. We hope to be able to announce next week that Augustus Leazer, of Iredell, the able and loval friend of the people, has been chosen to that important position.

GOVERNOR SCALES FOR THE COMMISSION.

Governor Scales will favor a rail road commission in his message to the Legislature, and in doing so he will but echo the sentiment of the great people whom he represents, on this question.

Gov. Scales and Gov. Fowle both favor the commission and are supported by ninety-nine of every hundred of the tax-payers of the State.

Let the law be fair, just and equitable to the people and to the roads and let its execution be placed in the hands of able, impartial, just and fearless men. However perfect the law, if placed in the hands of weak, vacillating and corrupt men, it will be infinitely worse than no law at all.

COULD THEY. "DELIVER THE GOODS?"

We hear of tempting offers of "official favor" being made in the event that certain schemes can be consumated. It reminds us of the old negro preacher. He said: "My bredren! Dar wus a certin old feller over eighteen hundred years ago, who tuk a certin pusson up on top of a great big mountain and tole him ef he would do certin things he would give him the whole world what was spread out before 'em, when the trufe is, my dear bredren, de old scoundrel didn't own a foot of land in de whole univarse. Watch dese fellers, bredren, what is loaded down wid big promises -dey ain't got much of nuthin else."

HOW DO THEY STAND?

Mr. A. Leazer, of Iredell, Mr. Sutton, of Cumberland, and Mr. Carter, of Buncombe, are announced as candidates for the Speakership of the Lower House of our General Assembly. Mr. Leazer has a clean cut record as a member of the Legislature on all the important questions which came before it during the years in which he served. He is a pronounced friend of a railroad commission and has ever opposed the giving away of our convict labor. These are living, vital questions. Will Mr. Sutton and Mr. Carter tell the public how they stand on them?

IT WILL DO AWAY WITH PREJU-

The Fayetteville Observer, in relation to a railroad commission, says:

"It is a pretty well understood fact that our next Legislature will thoroughly revise all laws pertaining to the rights and privileges of railroads operating within the State, and create a railroad commission. The matter will be strongly opposed by the railroads, but it ought to work them no harm; it would be a protection to them, if good, competent, reliable men who, without prejudice, would do their duty, were appointed to act, for the people, it would in a great measure do away with that prejudice which is fast growing up."

The exact number of Farmers' Alliances in the State, up to this date, is fourteen hundred and sixty-one.